

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) Process for the selective separation of iron present in a solution in the presence of other metal ions, ~~optionally comprising~~ including vanadium, comprising treating the solution with an ion-exchange resin comprising diphosphonic acid groups.

2. (Previously Presented) Process according to claim 1, wherein the ion-exchange resin comprises sulphonic groups.

3. (Previously Presented) Process according to claim 1, wherein the solution comprising the metal ions is at a pH of less than 3.

4. (Previously Presented) Process according to claim 1, wherein the solution results from a process for the oxidation of organic compounds in the presence of a catalyst.

5. (Currently Amended) Process for the recycling of a catalyst in a reaction for the oxidation of an organic compound in the presence of a catalyst comprising metal elements, comprising treating the ~~a~~ solution comprising the catalyst, after separation of at least the compounds resulting from the oxidation, with an ion-exchange resin

comprising diphosphonic acid groups, in order to fix the iron present in the said solution, and in recycling said solution, depleted in iron, as catalytic solution for the oxidation reaction.

6. (Previously Presented) Process according to claim 5, wherein the ion-exchange resin comprises sulphonic groups.

7. (Previously Presented) Process according to claim 5, wherein the oxidation reaction is carried out while using, as an oxidizing agent, a compound selected from the group consisting of oxygen, air, peroxides, aqueous hydrogen peroxide solution and nitric acid.

8. (Previously Presented) Process according to claim 5, wherein the oxidation reaction is the reaction for the oxidation of alcohols and/or ketones to carboxylic acids.

9. (Withdrawn) Process for the manufacture of adipic acid by oxidation of cyclohexanol and/or cyclohexanone in the presence of the catalyst based on metal elements, comprising treating the solution resulting from the oxidation comprising the catalyst, after separation of the adipic acid formed, with at least one ion-exchange resin comprising diphosphonic groups, in order to deplete said solution in iron ions, and in reusing said solution, depleted in iron, as a catalyst for the oxidation reaction.

10. (Withdrawn) Process according to claim 9, wherein the oxidation catalyst is based on copper and vanadium.

11. (Withdrawn) Process according to claim 9, wherein the solution comprising the catalyst is a nitric solution from the elution of an ion-exchange resin which makes it possible to separate the metal ions from the carboxylic acid byproducts from the reaction for the oxidation of cyclohexanol and/or cyclohexanone to adipic acid.

12. (Withdrawn) Process according to claim 9, wherein the ion-exchange resin comprising diphosphonic acid groups is regenerated with an acidic solution.

13. (Withdrawn) Process according to claim 12, wherein the regeneration of the resin is carried out with a different acid from nitric acid and said regeneration resin is conditioned with a nitric acid solution or by washing with water before a fresh use.